

Message Text

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62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /071 W
----- 127698

R 121643Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8207

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O' 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UK, SY

SUBJECT: UK TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA

1. OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY INFORMED EMBASSY
FEBRUARY 12 THAT HMG HAS FINALLY DECIDED TO REVIVE
ITS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO SYRIA. REVIEW OF
SYRIAN PROGRAM HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR OVER A YEAR WITH
SYRIA'S ROLE AS ONE OF PRINCIPAL CONFRONTATION STATES
THE PRIMARY STUMBLING BLOCK.

2. HEAD OF ODM'S DEVELOPMENT DIVISION IN BEIRUT
RECOMMENDED LAST YEAR THAT ON PURELY DEVELOPMENTAL
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GROUND'S AID SHOULD BE RESUMED. SINCE THEN UK HIGH

COMMISSION IN DAMASCUS, REINFORCED OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS BY THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT, HAS BEEN STRONGLY URGING RESUMPTION ON MORE POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL GROUNDS.

3. PROGRAM WILL BE DEVOTED TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INCLUDE ADVANCED TRAINING IN UK FOR ABOUT SIX STUDENTS A YEAR. ANNUAL CEILING OF 100,000 POUNDS PLACED ON PROGRAM, ALTHOUGH ODM RECOGNIZES THAT IT MAY BE SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE THE PROGRAM REACHES THIS LEVEL. ODM NOW AWAITING PROLECT SUGGESTIONS FROM SYRIAN GOVERNMENT. CURRENT INTENTION IS TO PLACE EMPHASIS ON PROJECTS IN AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION.

SIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON02211
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750051-0839
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750251/aaaabtda.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA
TAGS: EAID, UK, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006